

# ISLAND COUNTY SOLID WASTE ADVISORY (SWAC) COMMITTEE

## JULY 17, 2023

**Members Present:**

Randi Perry, Dar Christopherson, Sarah Bergquist, Liz Ketcheson, Scott Sebelsky, and Andrew Riggs

**Staff Present:**

Jeff Hegedus, and Gynon Nash

**Others Present:**

Olivia Carros (Dept of Ecology)

**Call to Order:**

The regular meeting of the Island County SWAC was called to order on Monday, July 17, 2023, at 10:03 a.m. via Microsoft Teams meeting, by Sarah Bergquist, Chairperson.

**Roll Call, Determination of Quorum, and Approval of Minutes:**

Roll call determined the correct amount of a quorum. The minutes for the April 17, 2023, SWAC meeting were approved as written. The motion for approval was made by Scott Sebelsky and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Liz Ketcheson. Motion approved - all in favor.

**Public Comment Period:**

None

**Operations Update:**

Jeff Hegedus updated the committee on operations:

- After a 4% increase in 2021, solid waste tonnage decreased by 2% in 2022. For 2023 year-to-date tonnage is down 4%. Customer counts are up 13% over 2022.
- Coupeville compactor was shut down for four days for repair to the hopper and installation of an electrical panel to allow for emergency generator connection
- The septage lagoon has been emptied, and approximately 925,000 gallons of biosolids have been land applied
- Approximately 600 tons of yard waste has been grinded and hauled from Coupeville
- MRW sheds have been replaced at all County solid waste sites
- Contracts with Republic Services and Waste Management expire at the end of 2024 and will soon be going out to bid
- City of Langley's viral outbreak in rabbits. The County is working with Langley and Island Disposal for safe disposal of carcasses.

Group discussion regarding DTG's contract with the County versus the services they offer as a private company.

Dar asked Andrew for an update on their commercial single stream recycle service. Andrew reported that adoption has been slow, they've sent mailers to potential customers, and are looking to see if larger containers would be more appealing to customers.

**Coupeville Transfer Station Update:**

Jeff Hegedus reported to the committee that on June 21, 2023, the results of the SCS Engineers Coupeville Transfer Station Assessment Study were reported to the Board of County Commissioners at regular work session. The PowerPoint presentation is included in the agenda packet. Staff recommends purchasing a compactor now and modify existing site until a new 10,000 SF transfer station is built.

Randi Perry motioned to move the staff recommendation forward and Dar Christopherson 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. Motion approved - all in favor.

**Camano Transfer Station Update:**

Jeff Hegedus reported to the committee that SCS Engineers is now conducting an assessment of the Camano solid waste site. Comments and photos from the initial site visit are included in the agenda packet.

**Transfer Station Funding Options:**

Jeff Hegedus reported to the committee that the SCS Engineers assessment of the Coupeville Solid Waste Complex provides funding option and impacts on tipping fees. SCS Engineers Solid Waste Revenue Sufficiency Analysis Model is included in the agenda packet.

**Solid Waste Legislative Update:**

Jeff Hegedus briefly updated the committee on a number of solid waste initiatives recently signed into law:

- SB 5144 Providing for responsible environmental management of batteries
- SB 5287 Wind turbine blade recycling
- HB 1033 Evaluating compostable product usage
- HB 1085 Reducing plastic pollution
- HB 1047 Concerning the use of toxic chemicals in cosmetic products

**Open Session, Announcements, Agenda Items:**

- Andrew Riggs asked for comment or concerns regarding Island Disposal's future residential recycling program currently before the UTC. The committee decided to add to next meeting agenda.
- Olivia Carros requested to add organics update to next meeting agenda.
- Sarah Bergquist requested to add discussion of in person SWAC meetings to next meeting agenda.

**Adjournment:**

Sarah adjourned the meeting at 11:38 a.m. The next regular scheduled SWAC meet will be October 16, 2023, beginning at 10:00 a.m.

Approved this 16th day of October 2023

  
Sarah Bergquist, SWAC Chair